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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1-4 (canceled).

5 (currently amended): A method for installing a foldaway hand rail to a surface of a vehicle comprising:

assembling a hand rail to at least one bracket, such that said hand rail is selectively positionable in first and second positions relative to said at least one bracket, said at least one bracket having a handle receiving portion and a pair of mounting apertures, said mounting apertures being laterally offset from said handle receiving portion;

mounting said at least one bracket to the surface of the vehicle after said hand rail is attached to said at least one bracket, said mounting apertures being generally vertically aligned when said bracket is mounted to the surface of the vehicle.

6 (original): The method of claim 5, wherein said hand rail is selectively pivotable between said first and second positions.

7 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein said at least one bracket comprises a pair of brackets.

8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein assembling said hand rail to said pair of brackets includes assembling said hand rail to said pair of brackets with a pivot pin extending through an end of said hand rail at each of said pair of brackets.

9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein mounting said brackets to the surface of the vehicle includes mounting each of said brackets to the surface of the vehicle with at least one fastener inserted through at least one mounting aperture in said bracket, said at least one mounting aperture being offset from said pivot pin.

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10 (currently amended): The method of claim 5, wherein said at least one bracket includes a receiving portion for receiving an end of said hand rail, said receiving portion being offset toward one side of said at least one bracket from a centerline of said at least one bracket, said at least one bracket including at least one and said pair of mounting aperture apertures are offset toward the other side of said at least one bracket from said centerline.

11-17 (canceled).

18 (new): A method for installing a foldaway hand rail to a surface of a vehicle comprising:
assembling a hand rail to at least one bracket, such that said hand rail is selectively positionable in first and second positions relative to said at least one bracket;
mounting said at least one bracket to the surface of the vehicle after said hand rail is attached to said at least one bracket and irrespective of the position of said hand rail relative to said at least one bracket.

19 (new): The method of claim 18, wherein said hand rail is selectively pivotable between said first and second positions.

20 (new): The method of claim 19, wherein said at least one bracket comprises a pair of brackets.

21 (new): The method of claim 20, wherein assembling said hand rail to said pair of brackets includes assembling said hand rail to said pair of brackets with a pivot pin extending through an end of said hand rail at each of said pair of brackets.

22 (new): The method of claim 21, wherein mounting said brackets to the surface of the vehicle includes mounting each of said brackets to the surface of the vehicle with at least one fastener inserted through at least one mounting aperture in said bracket, said at least one mounting aperture being offset from said pivot pin.

23 (new): The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one bracket includes a receiving portion for receiving an end of said hand rail, said receiving portion being offset toward one

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side of said at least one bracket, said at least one bracket including at least one mounting aperture offset toward the other side of said at least one bracket.